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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONSERVATION DAYS NOVEMBER 2020

The Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District, WUR Solid Waste Management District, and Richmond Sanitary District would like to thank all the sponsors, providers, volunteers, presenters, and staff that put time and effort into the 23rd Annual Wayne County Conservation Days for local third and fourth grade students and their teachers. We were not able to hold this event live on the fairgrounds like we normally would due to Covid-19. This year our presenters were recorded by WCTV or provided links to their program topics. These were passed along to the teachers along with the annual goodie bags for students and teachers.

SPONSORS, DONATIONS, GRANTS, AND PROVIDERS:

American Dairy Association Indiana, Inc.; Best Way Disposal; Byron Seeds; Cope Environmental Center; Phyllis Eloff; *Envision* – Purdue School of Agriculture; FriendsOffice – Kelly Knapke; Hayes Arboretum; IDEM–Environmental Education; Indiana Beef Council; Indiana Corn Marketing Council; Indiana Pork Producers Association – Check Off; Indiana Soybean Alliance; Indiana State Poultry Association, Inc.; Joseph Moore Museum; Koenig Equipment; Maple Leaf Farms; Judith Metzger (in memory of Mary Lou Thomas); NRCS Distribution Center; Nettle Creek Hardware – Gary Schuette; Office 360 – Amy Holthouse; Primex; Purdue Extension–Wayne County; Reid Health; Richmond Sanitary District; The Nature Conservancy; USDA Service Center; Wayne County Foundation Spring 2020 Grant; Wayne

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County Soil & Water Conservation District; Whitewater Community Television; Whitewater Valley REMC Round Up Grant; and WUR Solid Waste Management District.

VOLUNTEERS:

Sheryl Brown, Jan Burk, Teri Grossman, and Mary Heyob. These four ladies worked tirelessly to prepare materials for the student goodie bags, then stuffed those materials into over 800 goodie bags, packed those goodie bags into boxes for the schools, and finally helped to deliver them all as well.

PRESENTERS:

4-H – Alicia Criswell, BEEF - Paula Richardson and Raquel Baker; COMBINE - Brad Bihl; DOGS - the Whitewater Valley Dog Training Club - Rick Dalessandro with Darby & Callie and John Herig with Salmon; FORESTRY – IN DNR District Forester, Jayson Waterman; INSECTS – Hayes Arboretum, Jenilee Braun, Naturalist; POULTRY – Joe Gollither, Gollither Farms; RECYCLING – Dr. Ron Itnyre, IU East professor and WUR SWMD board member; VETERINARY MEDICINE – Dr. Christy Herr; WATERSHED - Shannon Hayes, Earlham College Geology Department and Wellhead Committee; and WILDLIFE Birds of Prey – Shawn & Kathryn Conner, Naturalists, Hueston Woods State Park.

ADDITIONAL PRESENTATION SUPPORT:

Hoosier Energy’s Power Line Safety Demonstration video; American Dairy Association Indiana, Inc for “Winners Drink Milk!” videos; Maple Leaf Farm video on how their ducks are raised; Wayne County Farm Bureau/Elanco for the Jeopardy game on Farming; National Pork

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Board virtual reality video on modern pork production; and recycling videos from Rumpke, Best Way, and East Central Recycling/Muncie Sanitary District.

If I have forgotten to mention any organization or individual, please know that your help with Conservation Days 2020 was greatly appreciated and we could not have attempted this without you! Thanks to everyone that helped with this wonderful educational event for our local students to learn about natural resources, agriculture, safety, and so much more, even through this Covid-19 environment!

Sincerely,

LuAnne Holeva

Conservation Education Coordinator

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